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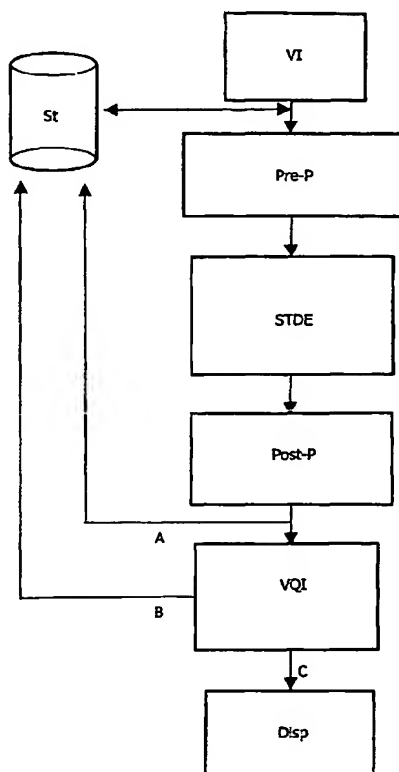
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(54) Title: DETECTION OF LOCAL VISUAL SPACE-TIME DETAILS IN A VIDEO SIGNAL



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to video signal processing such as for TV or DVD signals. Methods and systems for detection and segmentation of local visual space-time details in video signals are described. Furthermore, a video signal encoder is described. The method described comprises the steps of dividing an image into blocks of pixels, calculating space-time feature(s) within each block, calculating statistical parameter(s) for each space-time feature(s), and detecting blocks wherein the statistical parameter(s) exceeds a predetermined level. Preferably, visual normal flow is used as a local space-time feature. In addition, visual normal acceleration may be used as space-time features. In preferred embodiments visual artefacts, such as blockiness, occurring by MPEG or H.26x encoding can be reduced by allocating a larger amount of bits to local image parts exhibiting a large amount of space-time details.

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